IN THE CLAIMS:

1.   [CURRENTLY AMENDED]   A method for solving a plurality of formula-related function calculations and conversions commonly encountered in the machinist trade comprising the steps of:

a.   providing a hand-held calculating apparatus having a visual display and a keyboard including one or more key groupings for selecting a specialized function for calculation;

b.   storing a plurality of pre-selected number of formula-related function calculations and conversions in said hand-held calculating apparatus that are individually selectable by depressing one of a corresponding number plurality of function keys to initiate the selected function for calculation;

c.   initializing a specialized function calculation or conversion by selecting and depressing one of the plurality of function keys;

[c.] d. causing one or more user prompts to appear on a the visual display in a predetermined sequence for use in said selected function calculation;

[d.] e. manually entering numerical information required for the selected function calculation in response to said user prompts and temporarily storing said numerical information;

[e.] f. calculating said selected function using said temporarily stored numerical information[;] and [f.] displaying a numerical result for said selected function on the visual display;

g.   providing one or more temporary memory locations for storing the numerical result of a previously completed selected function calculation and selectively storing said

1072.1   - 4 -

numerical result for said previously completed selected function calculation in said one or more temporary memory locations for later recall;

h.   prompting the user by displaying a special character when previously stored numerical information is of the same type information required for use with a newly selected function calculation and recalling said previously temporarily stored numerical information of the same type for use in the newly selected function calculation.

2.   [CANCELLED].

3.   [ORIGINAL]   The method of Claim 1 comprising the additional steps of reviewing previously entered numerical information required for the selected function calculation, checking the accuracy of said numerical information for the current function calculation, and modifying said numerical information as necessary.

4.   [CANCELLED].

5.   [ORIGINAL]   The method of Claim 1 comprising the additional step of converting numerical information to be entered for use in the selected function calculation or numerical results of the selected function calculation between and among English and metric dimensional measuring systems and decimal and fractional values of said numerical information.

6.   [CURRENTLY AMENDED]   The method of Claim 1 wherein the specialized function calculation is selected from the group of formula-related functions consisting of revolutions per minute, surface feet per minute, inches per minute, feed per tooth and cut-time.